SLOWLY DOWNWARD TAGLIBRO

ISSUE NINETEEN — MIDSUMMER MOON WITH YOU — JUNE 2010

Screenprint by day...

MOON

This year, 2010, there is a full moon on the Saturday of the festival, (June 26th) so I've placed a huge full moon behind the silhouetted Glastonbury Tor.

The moon is technically at its fullest at 12.31pm, but it said to be 'full' for three days. The distance of the moon from the Earth at this time is 245,539 miles.

Traditionally, full moons were festival days and nights, a time for crazed, debauched revelry, and the midsummer full moon - which is what will happen at this year - was particularly important.

In Elizabethan times, saying *"tis Midsummer moon with you'* was considered to be a pleasant way of telling someone that they were raving mad. People still talk of 'midsummer madness', and it must be remembered that the moon itself is the muse of lunatics, so named for their fascination with the moon.

In German, *mondsüchtig* (moonsickness) is the word for 'madness'; in French to be mad is *avoir des lunes*, and in Italian it's simply *lunatico*.

We humans are 80% water, and thus are as affected by the phases of the moon as the planet's tidal oceans are, our emotions and bodies ebbing and flowing. And of course, certain unfortunate persons are transformed into slavering werewolves at the full moon.

PRINT

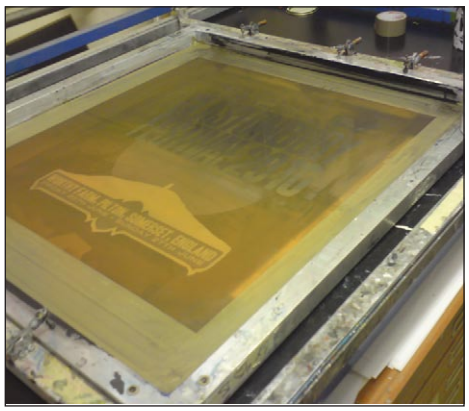
I've been doing a t-shirt design for Glastonbury Festival since 2002, (never imagined *that* when I used to sneak in) and in recent years I've also been designing the programme cover.

This year, in addition to these, I've adapted the artwork so that it can be screenprinted onto paper. This involved adding more detail to the moon and using gold and silver inks. And for this screenprint we have used a very effective glow-in-the-dark pigment, which charges in daylight or ultra-violet light, and glows for... ages.

This screenprint is in an edition of 40 signed and numbered copies.

Paper: Colorplan Natural 270gsm
Paper size: 620mm x 750mm
Print size: approx. 490mm x 620mm
Price: £125, not including postage &packing

An 8 colour screenprint; including gold and silver metallic inks and a newly-formulated intense glow-in-the-dark ink overprinted on the full moon, which is itself printed in three subtle colours.



Artwork on the screen, ready to print.

Screenprints drying on the rack.

...and by night.

TOR

Glastonbury Tor was once an island surrounded by watery marshes, and has always been the focus for weird stories of faeries, devils, and the supernatural. One story says that every time the town's Christians tried to build the church on top of the Tor the devil threw the stone down the hill each night. There has never been a church successfully constructed on the Tor, and all that ever remains of the various attempts is the tower, like a pagan standing stone, a blasphemous finger raised to the heavens, commanding views over the surrounding country as far as the eye can see.

Then there are stories of the tunnels under the hill, but unfortunately those who manage to find their way in either never return or are rendered 'insane' or 'unable to speak' when they emerge. The tunnels may be connected with the banked maze that runs around the sides of the Tor, (which can still be followed today, for those with the time and the inclination) and with the idea that the entrance to *Annwn*, the underworld, is somewhere on or in the Tor. This may also be found today. Possibly.

The famous Pyramid Stage at the Glastonbury Festival site is constructed on a leyline that runs directly to the Tor, and is a visual echo of the hill itself.